

CONVENTION OF THE NATIONAL BEE-KEEPERS ASSOCIATION U. S.

(By Gleaner.)

A. K. Ferris, Madison, Wis., advocated for comb honey a ten-frame Langstroth hive with a drawn comb at the sides and if the hive was still larger then, also a drawn comb for the centre of super, this would give a more evenly filled section.

C. A. Hatch, Richland Centre, Wis., thought the presence of drones in the hive had a great influence on swarming. If there were no drones present there would be but little swarming, if any. He gave the experience of a man who had a very small hive, but he kept out all drone comb.

L. A. Aspinwall, Jackson, Mich.—"As has been stated, drone brood and fresh cups for queen cells are a factor in swarming, so is ventilation, and so is the size of the hive, also the proportion of super room to that of the brood chamber. But we want more than a system to prevent swarming, we do not want tampering with the brood chamber to break down cells. Swarming is the bane of bee-keeping." He thought there was a prospect of getting a non-swarming hive. He had been experimenting 18 years. He used a 15-frame Langstroth hive and when the swarming season began he put slatted frames between the brood combs; this allowed the bees plenty of room between the combs of brood. He generally wintered on seven combs and added in the spring one or two frames at a time until in fruit bloom he had 12 to 14 combs of brood. He gave under the spread brood chamber first 36 sections and when the bees were well started another 36 sections. Seventy-

two were required for a colony of 50,000 bees. If the hive is allowed to become clogged swarming was bound to set in. Last season from 35 colonies he averaged 128 sections of comb honey and had no swarming. He considered that when the queen got crowned in a smaller hive she was failing.

J. A. Green's paper dealt with "Producing Comb and Extracted Honey on one colony." The idea was to use the drawn comb to entice the bees into the supers the drawn comb was put at the sides and in the centre of the comb honey supers. Some thought there was a great future in this system.

Mr. O. L. Hersheiser, Buffalo, N. Y. took up the question of "Rendering Wax." The speaker stated wax was the most valuable apiarian product. Much of it had been wasted by crude methods. The solar wax extractor was good for cappings, but practically useless for old comb. Steam should never be used without pressure. His method was to press, then refill with water and press again, the water helping to carry out the wax.

R. F. Holtermann, Brantford, Ont. gave an address on the subject of "Migratory Bee-Keeping." He advocated that the specialist should have a fixed location, but be ready to move to other and better pastures according to circumstances. He showed his hive with portico by means of which the bees could be screened and confined a few moments, also the double door for spring protection, which slides the grooves into which the screen fastened. He spoke of the extragance of 7-8 in. wood covers and showed a cover 7-8 in. thick, but padded with 1-2 in. of felt paper all protected by an inverted shallow galvanized

Doctor Phillips, Apiarian Branch, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., gave a paper upon the subject of apiarian work in their department.

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